



DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Regular Meetings: The First,
Second, and Third Tuesday
of each month

Regular Meeting

County Courthouse,
Bridgeport, CA 93517

May 12, 2009

Flash Drive	File	#1004
Minute Orders	M09-100	M09-104
Resolutions	R09-20	Used at Special Mtg
Ordinance	Ord09-01	Not used

9:00 AM Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Reid

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Hunt

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one spoke.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Supervisor Bauer:

1. Attended a Forest Service interview with Supervisor Hazard; provided a lot of information for them to consider.
2. Attended the LAFCO meeting (details outlined by Supervisor Farnetti).
3. Attended the June Lake CAC meeting. 1) The Forest Service supports the trails plan and will do the next EIR. 2) The CAC voted to support the economic development idea regarding the affordable housing plan.
4. Spoke with Mr. Lawrence about naming a peak in memory of his mother, Andrea. The family agrees with the selection; the peak would be named Mount Andrea. Tom Bohegian will be speaking to the National Park Service about this, and he will take the request forward.
5. Working with Gooch to finalize the plan of bringing her results to the ESTA board.
6. Dick Wittington of YARTS is working through the transit idea pertaining to re-authorization of the bill. Bauer is waiting to hear from Senators Boxer's and Feinstein's on their reauthorization forms.
7. The June Lake Visitors' Center is moving forward. Various community groups will participate financially. County Counsel will work on MOUs.

Supervisor Farnetti:

1. Attended the LAFCO meeting: 1) Held a public hearing on adoption of the 2009-10 preliminary budget, which is \$14,700 divided 50/50 between the Town and County. Next year will consider sharing substantial revenue from larger districts. The 2008-09

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budget was over \$38,000; the budget is less this year because they don't have the expenses. 2) Held a workshop on municipal spheres; still waiting for the Town sphere. Hope to adopt this at the June 3rd meeting. 3) The board is working to fill one vacancy.

2. Attended the LTC meeting yesterday: 1) Discussed Highway 120 and Tioga Pass with the Park Service (on conference call), Forest Service and CalTrans. The Lee Vining RPAC wants the road from 395 up to the gate to stay open as long as possible and re-open as soon as possible. CalTrans currently keeps the road clear, weather permitting, but public safety is a factor. Also discussed keeping Tioga Road through the national park open as long as possible to re-open as early as possible. There was a request for more avalanche control and a firm opening date of the first or middle of May. A few years ago the state drafted a report addressing the economic importance of Tioga Pass Road, and stating that CalTrans and the Park Service would work to keep it open. Will send a copy of the report to the Park Service. 2) Caltrans reported on various work activities throughout the Town and County.
3. Voiced concern about the County's plan to install barbed-wire fencing around Auchoberry Pit.

Supervisor Hazard:

1. Attended a Forest Service interview with Supervisor Bauer; discussed collaborative efforts.
2. May 8: Held office hours in Chalfant; nothing to report.
3. Attended the LTC meeting yesterday: Had a presentation on flood issues in Chalfant Valley, and talked about safety issues on Highway 6. The safety issues may be incorporated into a current CalTrans project in Inyo County.
4. Have been meeting with developers of Rock Creek Ranch to move issues forward. Areas of concern should have been addressed in the public scoping process. A lot of significant issues need to be resolved.
5. Received a letter from a constituent about road repairs in the Swall Meadows/Paradise area. This person is unhappy about a project in the Bishop area that was awarded to an out-of-state contractor. County CAO is looking at the County's policy about awarding contracts to local businesses.
6. There is an issue in Crowley Lake regarding the Bauxenbaum project and the proposed water tank. There is a threat of litigation. Also, unhappy citizens may attend tonight's meeting to speak under public comments.

Supervisor Hunt:

1. Rotary had a visit from the Group Study Exchange (5 people from France). The group toured around the area, spent a day skiing and a day biking around Mammoth; it was a good experience. The Group Study Exchange usually spends most of their time in Southern California, so this was a treat for them.

Chairman Reid:

1. May 6: Attended the management meeting; asked department heads to keep Supervisors informed about politically sensitive or controversial issues so they are not surprised. Most department heads are good about doing this.
2. Attended the agenda review meeting.
3. May 7: Met with Stacey Adler, Mono County Board of Education. They have an opportunity to get money for a pre-school in Bridgeport; she needs to give the state a location this week. Possible locations include the 2nd floor of Memorial Hall, although this presents ADA problems. Another possible location is the closed restaurant next to the park.
4. May 7: Met with Mark Spencer; he runs the AVIS communication system for Antelope Valley. He has an issue with a recent homeland security grant administered through the Sheriff's Office. Reid gave documentation to County Counsel and spoke with the

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Sheriff.

5. Attended the Walker RPAC meeting. Talked about the Auchoberry Pit; Evan Nikirk will review the proposed barbed-wire fence and will try to determine if the telephone line is operable.
6. Attended the LTC meeting; details provided by Supervisors Farnetti and Hazard.
7. 1) The dialogue has been opened with CalTrans about the economic importance of keeping Tioga Pass open as long as possible. 2) Highpoint funding has been taken out of STIP and put into safety. 3) Signs for Kiosks along 395 have been ordered and CalTrans is working on a sign acknowledging veterans.
8. Yesterday: Met with Brian Muir and the Sheriff to review RFPs for the needs assessment.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

- 1) CAO Report regarding Board Assignments (David Wilbrecht)
Receive brief oral report by County Administrative Officer (CAO) regarding his activities.
David Wilbrecht was out of the county. Rita Sherman attended the meeting in his place:
 1. Nothing to report.

- 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES
None

Closed Session: 9:01 a.m.
Break: 9:28 a.m.
Reconvened: 9:38 a.m.
Break: 10:25 a.m.
Reconvened: 10:37 a.m.
Break: 11:34 a.m.
Reconvened: 11:39 a.m.
Break: 11:47 a.m.
Reconvened: 1:31 p.m.
Adjourn: 2:15 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Report out of closed session: Nothing to report.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- 3a) Labor Negotiations - CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS.
Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s): David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Brian Muir, and Robert Garret.
Unrepresented employee(s): Public Works Director.
- 3b) Labor Negotiations - CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS.
Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s): David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Brian Muir, Robert Garret, and Mary Booher. Unrepresented employee(s): Professional Nursing Services.

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- 3c) Labor Negotiations - CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS.
Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s):
David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Brian Muir, and Robert Garret.
Unrepresented employee(s): Chief Probation Officer.
- 3d) Labor Negotiations - CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS.
Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s):
David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Brian Muir, Mark Mikulicich, and Robert
Garret. Employee Organization(s): Mono County Paramedic Rescue
Association.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/EMERGING ISSUES

Rick McManis: 1) Update about a code compliance issue in June Lake (substandard stairs at the general store). In order to avoid a costly repair, the owner has the option of using the stairway as a utility access only. The County will do two inspections and issue a permit; the stairs could be in compliance within one month. 2) The number of construction permits issued has increased slightly.

Kelly Garcia: The state is freeing up grant funds from Prop 40 (state parks money) and from Prop 50 (parkways); the money will be available shortly.

Lynda Roberts: Provided information comparing the number of documents recorded pertaining to foreclosures among a sampling of California counties.

CONSENT AGENDA

(All matters on the consent agenda are to be approved on one motion unless a board member requests separate action on a specific item.)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - PLANNING DIVISION

- 4a) Bauer Contract Extension for Rock Creek Canyon EIR/SP - Extension of term of contract with Bauer Planning and Environmental Services for the Rock Creek Canyon EIR/SP.

M09-100 Action: Approve first amendment of contract with Bauer Planning and Environmental Services for the Rock Creek Canyon EIR/SP, thereby extending its term to May 28, 2010.
Farnetti/Hazard, 5-0

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - BUILDING DIVISION

Additional Departments: IT Department

- 5a) Building Division "HP" Plan Scanners Purchase - This item is a request to re-allocate \$38,000 in unused Building Division Service and Supplies funds for the purchase of two new full size plan scanners. The Mono County Building Division is moving towards the full implementation of digital internet accessible services

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for the citizens of Mono County and the addition of these two scanners will greatly increase the success of these new services.

- M09-101** **Action:** Authorize the reallocation of unused Building Division Service and Supplies funds for the purchase of two new HP full size plan document scanners. This funding reallocation will provide the Building Division with the ability to digitize all plan submittals thereby making this information available for digital plancheck services, digital plans would be available on field computers for field inspections, allow Building Division personnel to self perform the archive scanning operation that is being done by an outside contract provider, and benefit the citizens of Mono County through improved efficiency and productivity.
Farnetti/Hazard, 5-0

PUBLIC WORKS

- 6a) License Agreement for Lundy Campground & Lundy Lake Boat Ramp - Consider County entry into a five-year license agreement with Southern California Edison for use and operation of the Lundy Lake Campground and Boat Ramp properties.

- M09-102** **Action:** Approve and authorize the Public Works Director to execute and administer a five-year license agreement with Southern California Edison for the Campground and Boat Ramp at Lundy Canyon.
Farnetti/Hazard, 5-0

REGULAR AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (INFORMATIONAL)

All items listed are available for review and are located in the Office of the Clerk of the Board

CLERK-RECORDER

- 7a) Letter from James Luscutoff, California Department of Parks and Recreation - Letter addressed to Mr. Thomas Crowe regarding motorized boat tours at Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve.

Chairman Reid: This has been a lengthy process for Tom, and apparently he has decided to not get the permit. This is unfortunate because Tom has been an ambassador for the Lake. Supervisor Farnetti: This has been a long-standing use on the Lake, so the change is unfortunate. Supervisor Hunt: The state's decision does not seem to be rational since a partnership would benefit the park and provide a public service. Supervisor Hazard: The County may have some options and authority that can be explored at a later time.

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CLERK OF THE BOARD

- 8a) Colonel Norman Cooling, USMC (**Colonel Norman Cooling, USMC**) - Colonel Norman Cooling, USMC, Commanding Officer at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, will present a briefing on current and emerging training initiatives.

Action: Receive presentation and provide any desired direction to staff.

Colonel Norman Cooling gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining current operations:

- Introduced Sgt. Major Doug Powell, who should be here for a three-year tour.
- Making a conscientious effort to engage the community. Working to establish civilian deputies in order to establish more permanency in community relationships.
- Mission: Provide training courses to prepare USMC, Joint, and Allied Forces for operations in mountainous, high altitude and cold weather environments; unit training programs for other agencies; test equipment in this environment for the Marine Corp (such as snow shoes, skies, and cold-weather clothing).
- Conduct common scenario exercises with other units in the region (Hawthorne and Fallon), in order to learn how to coordinate command, air, strategic, and ground forces.
- Units come to the training center to develop cohesiveness and identify potential leaders.
- Training devices and simulators must be safe for the environment and personnel.
- Training is not conducted indiscriminately, so ideal places are located taking into consideration the surrounding environment and population.
- Eight formal courses include: mountain leaders, winter mountain leaders, mountain scout sniper, mountain medical, cold weather medical, animal packer, mountain ops staff planning, and mountain communications.
- Unit training programs include: mountain warrior, white mountain, mountain viper, and tailored unit training packages (summer and winter).
- Initiatives: training alignment with other USMC and joint exercises; environmental impact studies; community plans liaison officer; civilian deputies; relocation of expeditionary airfield.
- Community affairs (interacting with the local communities): economic impact, community service, and community participation.

Response to Board Questions:

- The operation is 6% of the Department of Defense budget, but provides 30-40% of special operation services.
- The number of permanent staff on base is 228. Half of the student population at the Coleville schools is from the military base. The base provides a child care facility for military families.
- The base has a small naval clinic and a small PX.
- No fixed wing aircraft use the airfield, rotary only.
- There is no other facility in the country like this one; there is only a small training facility in Alaska.
- The facility uses un-manned aerial units in training, but must stay within a certain altitude. The venue determines the type of un-manned aircraft that can be used, so larger equipment can be used at Fallon and Hawthorne.

Chairman Reid: Thanked Colonel Cooling for the help they provided to improve the Walker baseball field.

Colonel Cooling: It means a lot to the marines to come into an area that welcomes them. The Marine Corps appreciates community support.

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- 9a) Federal Acknowledgement for Mono Lake Kutzadika Tribe (**Supervisor Bill Reid**) - The Mono Lake Kutzadika Tribe has requested support from the Board of Supervisors for the Tribe's petition for federal acknowledgement.

M09-103 Action: Approve the letter of support presented in the Board's packet.
Farnetti/Bauer, 5-0

Charlotte Lange: The Tribe started this process about five years ago; the request will soon go before Congress. Lange met with Buck McKeon and a representative of the Department of the Interior. All the paperwork and data will be submitted to the Department of the Interior; a review board will consider whether more data is required. The Tribe would appreciate support from the Board of Supervisors. The Tribe hopes to be able to partner with Mono City's fire department, which would provide jobs and assist with the purchasing of equipment; the Tribe currently works with the Forest Service and Yosemite Park. The Tribe wants to be recognized as Native Americans.

Response to Board Questions:

- There are three large families living in the area, with 55 voting members. Many people live elsewhere due to a lack of jobs, but they function as a tribe.
- Federal recognition would provide financial advantages, such as the ability to apply for grants to function as a tribe, the opportunity for children to apply for college money, and the opportunity to apply for grants to assist with health care.

Marshall Rudolph: Once the federal government recognizes a new tribe, the government usually assists in designating tribal land that goes into a trust and allows for all the attributes of tribal land, over which the County has no jurisdiction. Lange: Tribal land is currently federal land.

LUNCH

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one spoke.

FINANCE

- 10a) County Fees (**Brian Muir**) - Receive staff report. Conduct public hearing regarding adopting new or increased fees for certain County permits and other services. Consider resolution adopting new or increased fees for certain County permits and other services and authorizing the Finance Director to compile and maintain one or more lists of County fees. Provide any desired direction to staff.

M09-104 Action: Do not increase fees at this time. Direct staff to revise the resolution to simply maintain or reduce existing fees. Include language in a "whereas" to indicate that while the County fee amounts are insufficient to fully recover County costs, the Board recognizes that imposing new or increased fees for

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services in the current economic conditions would create a burden for citizens receiving the services. Fees in final resolution may be adjusted as long as revenue neutral.

Bauer/Farnetti, 3-2; Hazard and Hunt opposed.

Brian Muir:

- This is the annual review of fees; there was no review last year since there were no significant changes.
- Fee changes include an explanation and the basis for the change. Fees cannot exceed the actual cost to provide the service.
- Fees are charged to users; when the full fee is not charged, the balance is paid by the taxpayers.
- The hearing was advertised twice, and documentation was available to the public in the finance office. No one reviewed the fees, and Muir received no
- As proposed the fees would provide about \$126,000 over a two-year period.

Rick McManis provided information showing that the County's building fees are less (by about \$8,000) than the Town's building fees.

Response to Board questions:

- A number of categories were deleted in the EMS program. Medicare incorporates these fees in the base rate, so the EMS base rate was adjusted accordingly. The rate for mileage did not increase because many clients are on Medicare, which won't pay that fee.
- Regarding increases to the food facility charges (which may be difficult for small retailers to pay at this time), realignment funds pay for whatever environmental health fees don't cover; realignment money is stretched thin.
- Regarding the fee for inspections of pools and spas, the increase was based on employee time studies, plus the actual cost of the program. More staff members are doing inspections this year. In the past many pools and spas were not being inspected.

Chairman Reid opened the public hearing. No one spoke. Chairman Reid closed the public hearing.

Board discussion:

- Dilemma of raising fees in a bad economy vs. postponing increases and making bigger adjustments in the future.
- Many businesses are struggling right now. The Board needs to be sensitive to what is happening.
- Regarding employee time studies, departments need to work as efficiently as possible in order to minimize costs.
- Fees not paid by the actual user are paid by the general tax payer (out of the General Fund).
- The County is in a good financial position at this time, but that could change in the future.
- Consider raising the fees, but determine a reasonable cap.
- Staff pointed out that in some cases the state is imposing new requirements. In addition, County staff is providing more accurate information about the cost of services.

ADJOURN: 2:15 p.m.

Will reconvene for the special meeting at 6:00 p.m., Crowley Lake Community Center.

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